



U.S. Consulate General, Johannesburg

Warden Message – March 24, 2009

This warden message is being issued to alert Americans of incidents of violence associated with a strike by taxi and minibus drivers in the Johannesburg area on Tuesday, March 24, 2009. Ongoing media reports include violent attacks on buses and bus drivers and the use of rubber bullets by South African police against violent demonstrators.

The U.S. Consulate General advises that American citizens defer travel to and within the Johannesburg Central Business District on March 24, 2009 and use caution if travelling elsewhere in the greater Johannesburg area. It is possible that violence associated with this strike will spread to areas beyond Johannesburg. American citizens should remain alert and are advised to monitor local broadcast media for updates on the strike.

Strike and demonstrations are not spectator events. If you come upon any striking or demonstrating group while traveling, alter your route and avoid driving or walking near the group. Demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and possibly escalate into violence. American citizens are therefore urged to avoid any areas where the marches are planned and exercise caution when in the vicinity of any protest.

As the Department of State continues to develop information on any potential security threats to U.S. citizens overseas, it shares credible threat information through its consular information program documents, available on the Internet at <http://travel.state.gov>. In addition to information on the Internet, travelers may obtain up-to-date information on security conditions by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the U.S. or outside the U.S. and Canada on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444.

All Americans in South Africa are urged to register either online at <https://travelregistration.state.gov> or by phone or in person directly with the U.S. Embassy in Pretoria or the Consulates General in Johannesburg, Cape Town, or Durban. Registering gives U.S. citizens access to updated information on travel and security within South Africa and makes it easier for the Embassy to contact citizens in case of emergency.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions:

The U.S. Embassy is located at 877 Pretorius Street, Arcadia in Pretoria, telephone (27-12) 431-4000 (from South Africa 012-431-4000), fax (27-12) 431-5504 (from South Africa 012-431-5504). The U.S. Embassy web site is <http://usembassy.state.gov/pretoria/>.

The U.S. Consulate General in Johannesburg provides consular services for Americans in the Pretoria area. The Consulate General in Johannesburg is located at No. 1 River Street (corner of River and Riviera Roads), Killarney, Johannesburg telephone (27-11) 644-8000 (from South Africa 011-644-8000), fax (27-11) 646-6916 (from South Africa (011-646-6916), after hours emergency (27) 79-111-1684 (from South Africa 079-111-1684). Its consular jurisdiction includes Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Limpopo, North West, and Free State provinces.

The Consulate General in Cape Town is located at the 2 Reddam Avenue, Westlake, Cape Town, telephone (27-21) 702-7300 (from South Africa 021-702-7300), fax (27-21) 702-7493 (from South Africa 021-702-7493), after hours emergency (27) 79-111-0391 (from South Africa 079-111-0391). Its consular jurisdiction includes Western Cape, Eastern Cape, and Northern Cape provinces.

The Consulate General in Durban is located at the Old Mutual Building, 31st floor, 303 West Street, telephone (27-31) 305-7600 (from South Africa 031-305-7600), fax (27-31) 305-7691 (from South Africa 031-305-7691), after hours emergency (27) 79-111-1445 (from South Africa 079-111-1445). Its consular jurisdiction is KwaZulu-Natal Province.